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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/909,550	07/20/2001	Pradeep Shrikrishna Limaye	BAY-017	1950

7590

03/22/2006

Wilson & Ham
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2530 Berryessa Road
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EXAMINER

LEE, ANDREW CHUNG CHEUNG

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2616

DATE MAILED: 03/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/909,550

Applicant(s)

LIMAYE ET AL.

Examiner

Andrew C. Lee

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 12-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12, 13, 14, 15 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated over Langridge et al. (US 6683849 B1)

Regarding claim 1, Langridge et al. disclose the limitation of a telecommunications network (Fig. 1, network comprising four nodes A to D) comprising: a first SONET/SDH ring that comprises a first plurality of nodes (Fig. 1; element ring 2 as first SONET/SDH ring, nodes A, B, D as a first plurality of nodes, column 4, lines 5 – 13), wherein said first SONET/SDH ring defines a first address space and wherein each of said first plurality of nodes is identified by a unique address in said first address space (column 6, lines 3 – 9, recited “APS Ids” as first address space of ring 2, nodes A,B, D are provided with the IDs for ring 2); and a second SONET/SDH ring that comprises a second plurality of nodes (Fig. 1; element ring 4 as second SONET/SDH ring, nodes A, B, C as a second plurality of nodes, column 4, lines 5 – 13) wherein

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said second SONET/SDH ring defines a second address space and wherein each of said second plurality of nodes is identified by a unique address in said second address (column 6, lines 3 – 9, recited “APS Ids” as second address space of ring 4 , nodes A,B, C are provided with the IDs for ring 4, whereas node D is not), and an optical fiber that carries a first working STS-N that comprises: (1) a second working STS-1 that is associated with said first SONET/SDH ring (column 4, lines 5 – 13, recited working traffic on the working fiber between the pair of nodes A,B, ring 2 (as first ring) and ring 4 (as second ring)), and (2) a third working STS-1 that is associated with said second SONET/SDH ring (column 4, lines 5 – 13, recited working traffic on the working fiber between the pair of nodes C,B, ring 4 (as second ring) and ring 3 (as third ring))), wherein there are at least two nodes that have an address in the address space of said first SONET/SDH ring and an address in the address space of said second SONET/SDH ring , and wherein traffic STSs are distinguished from protection STSs (Fig. 1, elements ring 2, nodes A, B, D, ring 4, nodes A, B, C, nodes A, B have address of first ring and address of second ring; column 4, lines 26 – 35,).

Regarding claim 3, Langridge et al. disclose the limitation of the telecommunications network of claim 1 further comprising an optical fiber that carries a first STS-N that comprises: (1) a first automatic protection switching channel that is associated with said first SONET/SDH ring (Fig. 1, element ring 2 as first ring, column 4, lines 5 – 13), and (2) a second automatic protection switching channel that is associated with said second SONET/SDH ring (Fig. 1, element ring 4 as second ring, column 4, lines 5 – 13).

Regarding claim 4, Langridge et al. disclose the limitation of the telecommunications network of claim 1 further comprising an optical fiber that carries a first STS-N that comprises:

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(1) the K₁ and K₂ line overhead bytes that are associated with said first SONET/SDH ring, and

(2) the K₁ and K₂ line overhead bytes that are associated with said second SONET/SDH ring

(column 5, lines 31 – 42; recited as K₁ and K₂, a single pair of K byte can be used to providing switching signaling for the entire traffic flow between nodes; column 5, lines 59 – 62).

Regarding claim 5, Langridge et al. disclose the limitation of a telecommunications network comprising: a first SONET/SDH ring (Fig. 1, element ring 2 as first ring.); and a second SONET/SDH ring (Fig. 1, element ring 4 as second ring.); an optical fiber that carries: (1) a first STS-1 that is associated with said first SONET/SDH ring (Fig. 1, element ring 2 as first ring, column 4, lines 5 – 13), and (2) a second STS-1 that is associated with said second SONET/SDH ring (Fig. 1, element ring 2 as first ring, column 4, lines 5 – 13).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 12, 14 are allowed. Prior art of record, in single or in combination, do not disclose expressly receiving a second optical carrier signal comprising a first source address and a first destination address in a second address space; multiplexing said first optical carrier signal and said second optical carrier signal into a frame; and transmitting said frame; wherein said first optical carrier signal in said frame comprises a second source address and a second destination address in said first address space; and wherein said second optical carrier signal in said frame comprises a second source address and a second destination address in said second address space ; demultiplexing said first optical carrier signal and said second optical carrier signal from said SONET/SDH traffic frame

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5. Additionally, all of the further limitations in claims **13, 15** are allowable since the claims are dependent upon the independent claims.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew C. Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-3131. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on (571) 272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ACL

Mar 15, 2006


RICKY Q. NGO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER